tion that does." Therefore those timid ones who are fearful of the adoption of a creed may take comfort.

Bro. S. H. Bashor closed his work at Waterloo, Iowa, on the 11th, and on the 12th he left for Ocoya, Ill., where he spent last week and this week he will be at the convention. Bro. J. H. Swihart is expected to preach for the Waterloo church on the first Sunday in October. Bro. Bashor had very large congregations at his farewell sermons.

Parties wishing to correspond with Bro. F. A. Hendricks will address him at Brock, Nemeha Co., Nebraska.

Bro. A. A. Cober was at Buckeye City, week before last, and held two meetings and a love feast. Three were added to the church. He spent a part of last week at North Liberty.

This week we publish an obituary of our old brother "Grandfather" Chrisman of Peble Co., Ohio.

Many of our citizens have very kindly offered to accommodate and entertain our brethren and sisters during the convention.

SANTA ROSE, CALIFORNIA, SEPT. 7, 1887.

E. L. YODER,

Dear Brother: The convention is near at hand and I truly hope every brother and sister will put forth their best efforts towards paying off the College debt. Bro. Holsinger has labored hard and faithfully and we ought to do our part individually. I send in my little mite $5.00. It is not much but I hope each and every member will send in something so the debt can be lifted. I am so anxious to hear of the College being free from debt, and I hope to hear right away after the convention.

KATE GAMBLE.

Bro. Geo. Stuckman of Nappanee, Ind., the author of "self-righteousness" in this issue holds his membership in the German Baptist church. The article has a progressive ring to it, and contains the kind of sentiment that brought about the Arnold's Grove tragedy. If a member of the great Sanhedrim gets hold of this article, the German Baptist church will be diminished by one and the Brethren Church will report one addition by relation.

Brother Samuel J. Miller, of Meyersdale, Pa., has been visiting his father Bro. John Miller, of Wayne Co., O.

It looks very much as though all the clergymen of the land are to receive a copy of the New York Voice free one year. This is the National Prohibition paper, and it will be sent to ministers to get them interested in the cause.

We publish an article on the inside this week entitled, "Look out for a Fall," without a name. It was written by a prominent brother, and to save his credit we witheld his name.

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church meets once every four years.

The General Synod of the Moravian Church meets once in ten or twelve years. Its next meeting will be in 1889. One man will not have the privilege of attending that synod many times.

The New York Independent says:

"The minister who is constantly on the lookout among current events for the topics of sensational sermons on the Sabbath, and uses his Bible mainly for texts on which to hang these sermons, is almost anything but a preacher of the gospel. He had better read his Bible more and study current events less, He will thereby better edify the church and be the means of saving more souls.

There is much truth in this statement. If a preacher cannot entertain his audience by preaching the Gospel, then he would better seek one that still has a little of God's grace.

A NEW FEATURE IN WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY.—The publishers of Webster have recently added to the Unabridged a "PRONOUNCING GAZETTEER OF THE WORLD, containing over 25,000 Titles briefly describing the countries, cities, towns, and natural features of every part of the Globe." It covers a hundred pages.

We do not condemn those who cling to customs. Customs are harmless. It is only when an effort is made to enforce these customs on others that the harm comes in.

The College will be in session the three first days of this week. The balance of the week will be made a vacation to give the students an opportunity to attend the convention.

Bro. Miller, of Rossville, Ind., preached at the College chapel last Lord's Day. He did very well. He will make a useful laborer in the Church.

Although a convention is being held, we go right along with the paper, as though nothing that concerned us more than usual had taken place.

Last week we were under the painful necessity of sending out to some of our subscribers a half sheet. By mistake, we did not print enough with the inside. We beg the indulgence of those who were thus served.

We have just received word that Bro. Nathan Nininger, of Virginia has sent three of his children to attend College. We expect them here today.

Bro. S. C. Stump, of Falls City, Neb., will be on hand at the convention.

Bro. T. J. Fahrney, of Downsville, Md., writes he was prevented from coming to the convention.

A Brother from Downsville, Md., writes that their Lovefeast will be held on Saturday, October 1st, commencing at 3 P. M.

Bro. E. L. Yoder arrived here on Monday morning. He had been on a visit to his old friends in Wayne Co. He looks well and is the same brother Yoder as of old, only he is a little more sunburnt and a trifle older and larger than he was two years ago. He sat down in the editorial chair with the old time dignity, and took his place at the desk as if he had never been away.

Bro. Annanias P. Miller and wife from Carleton, Nebraska, attended the lovefeast at Fair Haven, Wayne Co., last week. Bro. Miiler is delegated to represent the Carleton church at the Convention.

Sister Barbara Keim, of Holmesville, Neb., who lately came to visit relatives at her old home at Meyersdale, Pa., is still very low. Although they entertained some hope of her relief a few days ago, they have none now. Her husband Bro. Lewis Keim and sister Mary Saylor, of Waterloo, Iowa, are there also. We pray the Lord will give them grace for every event in his providence.

Masontown, Pa.

Bro. Geo. W. DeBolt baptized seven at East Riverside and six at Masontown. Our protracted meeting was a self-examination and our communion a spirit of love. Two of my nieces, Stella Sterling and Lizzie Provins, were among those baptized at Masontown. Walter Eberhart is a nephew of our minister. The others were Lizzie Collier, Susie Robinson, and Artie Doran. They are all young.

M. M. STERLING.

Sep. 15, 1887.

Somerset, Ind.

The brethren have remodeled and enlarged the old church house at College Corner, near Somerset, Wabash Co., Ind., and expect to dedicate it on Sunday the second day of October, and have our communion in the evening of same day. This will be our first communion in this church and we heartily invite all brethren and sisters to be with us that can. There is a hack running from Wabash to Somerset every day except Sunday.

WM. H. WAGONER.

Sept. 16th.

An Inquiry.

DEAR BRO.—I just want to ask what has become of that Catholic Priest in Kansas who was going to give any one $1000 who could show that the first day of the week was commanded to be kept sacred. And that Texasite, who proposed subsidizing this with $100 more? Some months since I accepted their offer, and so stated in the EVANGELIST, but have heard nothing from either of them since. I do hope our priest has not gone on a pilgrimage to Rome, or that he has to raise funds from working girls at the confessional. In either case I might have to wait too long. And that Texas man, was he a Doctor? If so, there is no hope, I fear, of ever hearing from him again. Bosh!! Such propositions are generally made by men without means or brains—a fallacious bid for a cheap immortality among the ignorant.

Yours, etc.,

J. A. MILLER, M. D.

Farmington, Cal.

P. S. When I get their money, I will give half of it to Ashland College.

Fragments.

Alas! how many souls there are full of self, and desirous of doing good and serving God, but in such a way as to suit themselves; who desire to impose rules upon God as to His manner of drawing them to Himself. They want to serve and possess Him, but they are not willing to abandon themselves to Him, and be possessed by Him.

Are you shining in some little corner with but little opportunity of causing many to see? Never mind! Only be true to your Lord there—only shine as much as He whishes you to that small number, and depend upon it you shall ere long be shining upon a far larger number, and with far more power.

What is sin? Sin is the transgression of the law, and all unrighteousness (all unrightness) is sin. Where is sin? It has a lodging-place, unfortunately, in this otherwise beautiful and happy world. But where does it abide here? Not in the material part of it. Not in the mountains and oceans and plains and rivers; they are sinless. Not in the animal world. The birds and beasts have no condemnation; they never transgressed the law of their Maker. Sin has its abode in the heart of man.

There are some virtues which are appropriate to certain conditions, and not to others; some are good at one time, and some at another; but an upright will is profitable for all times and all places. That kingdom of God which is within us consists in our willing whatever God wills, always, in everything, and without reservation; and thus His kingdom comes; for His will is then done as it is in Heaven, since we will nothing but what is dictated by His Sovereign pleasure.

Blessings in Disguise.

Misfortunes often prove blessings in disguise. It is said that the great European physiologist and natural philosopher, Helmholtz, dates his start in science from an attack of typoid fever. Strangely enough, this illness put him in possession of a microscope, which he was enabled to purchase, as he tells us himself, "by having spent my autumn vacation in 1841 in the hospital, prostrated by typhoid fever. Being a pupil, I was nursed without charge, and on my recovery I found myself in possession of the savings of my small resources." This fever proved a fortunate illness for Helmholtz and the world, and is a striking instance of a blessing in disguise.

John Bunyan was thrown in a dungeon for preaching the gospel; but while there he wrote "The Pilgrim's Progress" and other books that have blessed the world and immortalized his name. The persecutions which were cruel and severe proved to be real blessings in disguises, for by them he was led into paths of usefulness which he could otherwise never have known. The seeming misfortunes of John Bunyan made him the hero of Bedford jail.

So John Kitto, the eminent writer on biblical subjects, and thousands of others have been led into paths of distinguished usefulness through some seeming accidental, though no doubt providential, occurrence. Many of our most common ills are really blessings in disguise. We shall so see them "when the mists are cleared away." It is well, therefore, to trust God in all things and say, "Thy will be done."

Source of Happiness.

The pursuit of happiness is common to the entire human race, and ever since man lost his state of innocence and enjoyment in his primeval paradise, there has been a universal effort to regain that state of happiness lost by the dreadful fall. And even though God created man with capacities for true happiness and designed that all should be happy, planning and executing the great scheme of redemption to avert the misery and unhappiness occasioned by man's disobedience and transgression, yet how few there are who are seeking after happiness from the only source whence it is possibly derived, but are grasping after the illusive phantoms of sinful pleasure that are only evanescent, or like broken cisterns that hold no water.

The only possible way to be happy is by a cheerful and willing obedience to the law of God, which is designed for the promotion of our welfare here and our eternal felicity hereafter. Joseph Cook says that in order to be truly happy, there must be a similarity of thought, feeling and purpose with God and the laws of his spiritual kingdom. That is, we must believe with all our heart in the Word of God, have our affections fixed upon Him and our will in perfect harmony with the Divine will. Without the existence of such a harmonious relationship, there can be no happiness in this world, and heaven even would give no enjoyment.

There are numerous examples of failure in search after happiness, and history furnishes us with accounts of many unhappy wrecks strewn along the pathway of life; all because in their grasp after such a desirable goal they "sought beneath the skies." Solomon, with all of earthly enjoyments to gratify his ambitions, with honor, luxury, and ease at command, and everything that the world calls good to satisfy the desires of his soul, cries out in the lamentation of disappointment, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity and vexation of spirit."

The Roman Emperor Tiberias was one of the most powerful men of his age, with absolute and undisputed sway over one of the fairest and richest kingdoms of the earth, with no limit to his wealth nor restraint upon his pleasures; choosing for himself a home on one of the lovliest spots on earth, upon an enchanting islet beneath the shadow of the slumbering volcano where his gratification of self knew no bounds and where luxury was a slave to his bidding. Yet, with all this, was he happy? Listen to his expression of lamentable failure. In writing to his senate he says: "What to write to you, Conscript fathers, or how to write, or what *not* to write, may all the gods and goddesses destroy me, worse than I feel that they are daily destroying me, if I know."

Neither is wealth, as many suppose, a barrier against the encroachments of misery, as the sad records of the past do abundantly testify. Stephen Girard, Cornelius Vanderbilt and other money kings of the world give us no assurance that happiness can be purchased by the sordid lucre. But thanks be unto God, that happiness in its highest purity and most exalted sublimity is within the reach of all who truly and sincerely seek for it. The humble peasant as well as the crowned potentate, the poor as well as the rich, and whosoever will may be truly happy. The source of happiness is simply in fearing and obeying God. The fear of the Lord is the beginning the sum and the substance, as well as the end of all happiness in this world and in the world to come.—Rev. I. A. Smith.

Diversities of Gifts.

Very much of the criticism that is expended upon preachers or Christian workers would be rendered valueless, if the fact were kept in view that God employs all varieties of talent to carry on His work in the world and to effect His purposes. What one can not accomplish with the talent with which God has entrusted him, another can, with his God-given measure of mental equipment. The Boanerges may not be successful as a son of consolation, nor may a Barnabas be capable of taking the place of a son of thunder, but the criticism upon the work of each loses both its point and its propriety when the question is considered, who hath made them to differ?

Communion Notice.

Our love feast is to be held three and one half miles north of Downs, Kansas, Sept. 24th, 1887. We extend a cordial invitation to all members and especially to ministers.

ALLEN LEWIS.

Downs, Kansas.

DIED.

RHODES.—Died August 5, 1887, Mary May Bell, daughter of Samuel and Sister Elizabeth Rhodes, aged 1 year and 2 months. May Bell was an exceptionally sweet looking child. A great favorite of the family. Sermon by C. Forney.

Sweet and tender were her days,
Loveliness smiled in all her ways;
But short on earth was May Bell's time,
She's gone to live in a better clime.

C. FORNEY.

Niagara Falls Excursion, Saturday, September 24th, via B. & O. R. R.

On Saturday, September 24th, the B. & O. R R., in connection with the Nickel-Plate, will sell round trip excursion tickets to Niagara Falls, at $4.00. Train will leave Mansfield at 4:02 p. m.

Tickets will be good returning for five days. Take advantage of the extremely low rate offered, and visit Niagara.

For any further information, apply to agents B. & O. R. R.